

Technical Branch
Museum and Zoo Group
Zoo Series

ZOO KEEPER

06/88

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS:

Under immediate supervision, takes care of Zoo animals and maintains cages, enclosures, grounds, and service areas; and performs related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:

Responsible for the safety of Zoo animals; prepares predetermined regular and special animal diets and feeds the animals; observes Zoo animals for signs of poor health or injuries and reports abnormal behavior and injuries to supervisor; as assigned, helps veterinarian or the veterinarian's assistant in administering to animals.

Maintains and cleans cages, aquariums, animal enclosures, grounds and service areas; assists in display and habitat development and maintenance; assists in horticultural collection and maintenance; compiles with and enforces Zoo safety rules and regulations; enforces Zoo public safety standards and practices; answers the public's questions and gives directions regarding the Zoo and its facilities; prepares daily reports; keeps supervisor informed of the level, quality and condition of Zoo animals' food and other supplies; as required performs minor repairs and maintenance; reports damaged/defective equipment and cages to supervisor.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Training and Experience: Completion of high school or G.E.D. and one year experience in the care of caged animals; or an equivalent combination of training and experience.

Knowledge, Abilities and Skills: Some knowledge of the care, feeding and handling of Zoo animals.

Ability to prepare regular and special animal diets; ability to perform minor repairs and maintenance; ability to follow routine procedures for maintenance of grounds, display and habitats; ability to understand and follow oral and/or written instructions; ability to prepare logs and reports; ability to enforce rules and regulations; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with fellow employees and the general public.

Skill in the handling and restraint of Zoo animals.

Physical Requirements: Must handle and restrain Zoo animals; lift and carry heavy objects (up to 50 pounds); enter and access animal areas; work in humid surroundings; deal with the public; work under all weather conditions; operation of a motor vehicle through City traffic; must work various shifts and weekends.

Licenses and Certificates: Texas Class "C" Driver's License or equivalent license issued by another state.

Director of Personnel

Department Head